

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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EMBASSY TELEGRAM 165

SHIPPING TO CUBA

PRESIDENT ASTRUP OF SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION CONFIRMED TO ME LETTER SENT TO ALL MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION AND MADE PUBLIC TODAY. I SAID I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN OF THIS ACTION. TRANSLATION PUBLISHED TEXT:

"NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION IN STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 13 ESTABLISHED THAT NORWEGIAN SHIPS HAVE NOT CARRIED WEAPONS OR OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO CUBA. THE VERY FEW NORWEGIAN SHIPPING RUNS TO CUBA RECENTLY WITH OTHER GOODS HAVE OCCURRED TO LARGE DEGREE UNDER LONG-TERM CHARTER CONTRACTS WHERE CHARTERER DECIDES WHERE SHIP SHALL BE DIRECTED. SITUATION IN CONNECTION WITH SHIPPING TO CUBA SUCCESSIVELY HAS BECOME SO CONFUSED THAT NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION SUGGESTS TO MEMBERS THAT WHERE POSSIBLE THEY PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST HAVING THEIR SHIPS USED IN SHIPPING TO CUBA."

DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

[Handwritten signature]

WASHINGTON

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